



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

December 11, 2006



Aerial photo of the Capitol Visitor Center project site taken December 5, 2006. Masons have completed setting most of the 200,000 8-inch - square granite paving stones that cover the East Front Plaza. Historic lanterns and fountains have been reinstalled, curving seatwalls have been rebuilt, and rock-face granite now covers much of both the CVC entrance façade and the long curving walls that line the pedestrian approach ramps. Many of the palettes of stone staged between the large Great Hall skylights (center of photo) will disappear early next year as that stone, 4,600 pieces of sandstone and marble, is installed in the East Front of the Capitol during the final stages of construction.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 12/11/06 through 12/15/06

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- Drywall installation has begun at the Rotunda level in the East Front of the Capitol.
- In the Great Hall, workers continue installing finish elements including bronze grills over air supply openings, and bronze hand rails along the east side staircases. Workers are also assembling formwork for concrete placements in the water features at the base of the Great Hall stairs on the east side of the hall.
- Millwork wall panel installation continues in the South Orientation Theater.
- Masons continue setting stone at the upper level west lobby just outside the North Orientation Theater.
- In the Exhibition Hall, masons have completed setting marble to east side of the south Wall of Aspirations. Meanwhile, the primary steel framework for the north wall has been completed and crews have begun installing the interior steel braces that will help support the north wall's 20 tons of marble.
- Also in the Exhibition Hall, workers are installing ceiling drywall and a decorative trim around an oval ceiling alcove that is intended to mimic the existing House chamber.
- Masons continue to set stone to the exterior walls and columns along the CVC entrance zone.
- Masons continue setting stone on the walls of a new exterior elevator tower at the CVC entrance zone.
- Stone crews have begun setting pavers on the concrete slabs of the tree-lined stepped entrance walkway that slopes down from First Street to the north side CVC entrance.

- Workers have removed the concrete pedestal slabs that had cured last week around the south skylight above the Great Hall. The formwork has now been removed and final waterproofing will occur before the slabs are reset around the skylight.
- Plaster work continues on the ceiling bulkheads in the south side CVC screening entrance and in the large vestibule zone just west of the screening zones.

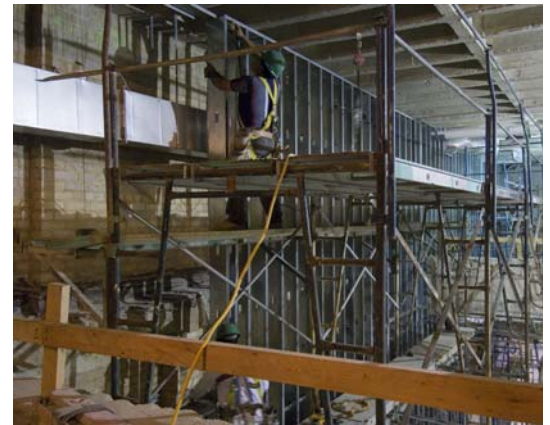


Inside the CVC's Food Service Area, carpenters install mahogany panels to a wall adjacent to the primary visitor seating zone.

Next Week – 12/18/06 – 12/22/06

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Ceiling work will continue in the East Front transition zone through the Carriageway and at the Rotunda and Gallery levels. This work will include metal stud framework and installation of drywall, ductwork, electrical and telecommunications conduit, light fixtures and other ceiling elements.
- In the Great Hall, workers are expected to complete placing concrete pedestals for the fountains at the base of the two east-side staircases. Water will slowly revolve around black granite slabs supported by the concrete pedestals.
- Floor stone installation will continue in the upper level west lobby just outside of the North Orientation Theater.
- Crews will begin assembling formwork for concrete floor slabs in the Congressional Auditorium.
- Ceiling work will continue in the north CVC entrance zone.
- Installation of kitchen equipment will continue in the Food Service Area.
- In House Expansion Space, crews will continue installing the metal framework for the ceiling of a Committee Hearing Room. Close-in inspections will continue in the lower level.
- In the Senate Expansion Space, ceiling close-in inspections will continue in the lower level while crews continue dropping ceiling panels into the ceiling grid of the Senate Recording Studio on the upper level.



A CVC worker installs metal stud framing to the east wall inside the East Front of the Capitol. The framework will support some of the 4,600 pieces of stone that will be installed in the East Front.

For additional information about the CVC project, contact the project communications officer, Tom Fontana, at tfontana@ao.gov or visit the project web site at www.ao.gov. Be sure to click on the "Capitol Visitor Center" link on the homepage.